PILE EXCAVATION 6-7-05

1.0 GENERAL

This special provision governs installing piles using pile excavation in accordance with the plans and as directed by the Engineer. Pile excavation is necessary when piles can not be installed to the required bearing capacity and tip elevation with conventional driving equipment due to vibration concerns or the presence of rock, boulders, debris or very dense soils. Install piles in accordance with Section 450 of the Standard Specifications and this special provision.

2.0 PILE EXCAVATION

Perform pile excavation to the required elevation shown on the plans or otherwise required by the Engineer. Excavate a hole with a diameter that will result in at least 3 inches (75 mm) of clearance around the entire pile. Use equipment of adequate capacity and capable of drilling through soil and non-soil including rock, boulders, debris, man-made objects and any other materials encountered. Blasting is not permitted to advance the excavation. Blasting for core removal is only permitted when approved by the Engineer. Dispose of drilling spoils in accordance with Section 802 of the Standard Specifications and as directed by the Engineer. Drilling spoils consist of all excavated material including water removed from the excavation either by pumping or drilling tools.

If unstable, caving or sloughing soils are anticipated or encountered, the Engineer may require the Contractor to stabilize the excavation with steel casing. Steel casing may be either the sectional type or one continuous corrugated or non-corrugated piece. Steel casings should consist of clean watertight steel of ample strength to withstand handling and driving stresses and the pressures imposed by concrete, earth or backfill. Use steel casings with an outside diameter equal to the hole size and a minimum wall thickness of 1/4 inches (7 mm).

3.0 CONCRETE PLACEMENT

Before placing concrete, center the pile in the excavation and drive to the required minimum bearing capacity or tip no higher than elevation, whichever is lower, as shown on the plans. Check the water inflow rate in the excavation after any pumps have been removed. If the inflow rate is less than 6 inches (150 mm) per half hour, remove any water and free fall the concrete into the excavation. Ensure that concrete flows completely around the pile. If the water inflow rate is greater than 6 inches (150 mm) per half hour, propose a concrete placement procedure to the Engineer. The Engineer must approve the concrete placement procedure before placing concrete.

Fill the excavation with Class A concrete in accordance with Section 1000 of the Standard Specifications except as modified herein. Provide concrete with a slump of 6 to 8 inches (150 to 200 mm). Use an approved high-range water reducer to achieve this slump. Place concrete in a continuous manner and remove all casings.

4.0 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

A. Method of Measurement

1. Pile Excavation in Soil

   The quantity of "Pile Excavation in Soil" to be paid for will be the linear feet (meters) of pile excavation exclusive of the linear feet (meters) of "Pile Excavation Not in Soil" computed from elevations and dimensions as shown on the plans or from revised dimensions authorized by the Engineer.

2. Pile Excavation Not in Soil

   The quantity of "Pile Excavation Not in Soil" to be paid for will be the linear feet (meters) of pile excavation in non-soil as determined by the Engineer. Non-soil is defined as material that can not be cut with a rock auger and requires excavation by coring, air tools, hand removal or other acceptable methods. Top of non-soil elevation is that elevation where the rock auger penetration rate is less than 2 inches (50 mm) per 5 minutes of drilling at full crowd force and coring, air tools, etc. are used to advance the excavation. For pay purposes, after non-soil is encountered, earth seams, rock fragments and voids in the excavation less than 3 feet (0.9 m) in total length will be considered "Pile Excavation Not in Soil". If the non-soil is discontinuous, payment will revert to "Pile Excavation in Soil" at the elevation where non-soil is no longer encountered.

B. Basis of Payment

1. Pile Excavation in Soil

   Payment will be made at the contract unit price per linear foot (meter) for "Pile Excavation in Soil". Such payment will include, but is not limited to, furnishing all labor, tools, equipment, materials including concrete complete and in place and all incidentals necessary to excavate and complete the work as described in this special provision. The cost for the pile will be paid for separately in accordance with the Standard Specifications and will not be part of the unit bid price for "Pile Excavation in Soil".

2. Pile Excavation Not in Soil

   Payment will be made at the contract unit price per linear foot (meter) for "Pile Excavation Not in Soil". Such payment will include, but is not limited to, furnishing all labor, tools, equipment, materials including concrete complete and in place and all incidentals necessary to excavate and complete the work as described in this special provision. The cost for the pile will be paid for separately in accordance with the Standard Specifications and will not be part of the unit bid price for "Pile Excavation Not in Soil".